

[12 August, 2002]

RAJYA SABHA

Supreme Court has been forwarded to all State Governments and High Courts for compliance.

Supreme Court to go hi-tech

2007. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that supreme Court has plans to go hi-tech online, as reported recently in the Press;

(b) the name of the agency which would help SC to go hi-tech to make litigation much quicker and cheaper;

(c) whether his Ministry has studied the Singapore Model in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Informatics Centre (NIC), The Supreme Court of India has also requested four reputed firms in the field of IT to study the existing system and submit their project report.

(c) to (e) Shri Pramod Mahajan, Minister of Information Technology, had in April 2000 requested the then Chief Justice of India to consider introduction of a Technology Court in the Supreme Court of India on an experimental basis on the pattern of a Technology Court in the Supreme Court of Singapore. On the direction of the then Chief Justice of India, the National Informatics Centre (NIC) submitted a Project Report on the upgradation of the computer network of the Supreme Court in September, 2000.

NIC, in its Report, had suggested that the existing Hardware and Software at the Supreme Court required to be changed. Some new applications namely, Management Information System (MIS), Public Interface System and Electronic-Courts (E-Courts) are proposed to be introduced. The Registrar General of the Supreme Court of India, accompanied by the Director, NIC also visited Singapore in April, 2002 to study computer facilities available in the Supreme Court of Singapore.

The Supreme Court of India, in consultation with NIC, has already procured necessary computer Hardware and Software for upgrading the existing IT facilities. It has also been proposed to implement several Public Interface Applications such as: Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) for providing case status information to the public on telephone, Certified copies to the litigant public, to provide access to the latest orders and judgements, issuance of notices by electronic means, to inform the litigant public about the case status through Short Message Service (SMS) etc.

Co-ordination between Government and Judicial authorities

2008. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government in co-ordination with judicial authorities has taken certain steps to ensure that cases pending in courts are disposed of speedily;

(b) whether it has been experienced that Fast Track Courts have yielded good results and brought down the number of pending cases;

(c) whether in order to introduce accountability, Government propose to introduce a column in service report of Judges showing the number of cases disposed of by a particular Judge in the reported year; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) Both the Government and the Judiciary are concerned with the quick disposal of pending cases. Various steps have been taken by the Government for speeding up the disposal of these cases. These include the setting up of Fast Track Courts, Computerisation and networking of courts and simplification of rules and procedure on the basis of the advice and recommendations of experts bodies like the Law Commission, the Malimath Committee etc.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Fast Track Courts have so far disposed of 58,662 cases.

(c) and (d) As per the recommendations of the First National Judicial Pay Commission, a format for writing the confidential report of judicial